

REMARKS

Claims 1-19, 21-48, 67-69 and 85-142 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 46 and 47 are amended, claims 70-84 are cancelled, and dependent claims 85-142 are added. No new matter is added by the above amendments.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 1-19, 21-48 and 67-69. As all rejected claims have been cancelled, Applicants submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

The Office Action objected to claims 71-77. This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 71-77.

Claims 70, 71 and 73-84 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,559,629 to Sheets et al. In addition, claims 70-72, 80, 81 and 84 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,512,631 to Shafer et al. These rejections are moot.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



Mario A. Costantino
Registration No. 33,565

MAC/ccs

Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Amendment Transmittal

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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